

Yosemite National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Public Comment Form TUOLUMNE RIVER PLAN and TUOLUMNE MEADOWS PLAN

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TWSP-365-EIS

SEP 07 2006

P. 182
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to provide written ideas, concerns, or suggestions during the public scoping period, which closes September 7, 2006. Written comments may be mailed to: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389 (Attn: Tuolumne Planning). Written comments may also be faxed to: 209/379-1294. Electronic comments may be emailed to: Yose_Planning@nps.gov (in the subject line type: Tuolumne Planning). Comments can also be submitted online by going to parkplanning.nps.gov/yose. Keep track of project status by regularly visiting the park's web site at www.nps.gov/yose/planning/trp.

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Name: DAN SHAW

Date of Comment: 24/8/06

Address: NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND

Comments

RT	#S	LT	DT	UT	IA	IR	OR	TS
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HAVING STAYED 2 NIGHTS IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
I AM A LITTLE DISSAPPOINTED IN THE CAMPING FACILITIES.
THE TOILETS AT TUOLUMNE MEADOWS CAMPGROUND WERE,
IN A WORD, DISCUSTING. THERE WERE NO LIGHTS AND THEY
WERE OVER FLOWING WITH EXCRAMENT. THE TOILETS IN
CRANE FLATS WERE JUST AS BAD AS THEY WERE
PORTALOO'S. WE HAD NOTHING TO WASH IN AND WERE
ADVISED AGAINST BATHING IN THE ONLY TAP PROVIDED.
I COULD HAVE CAMPED IN THE WILD FOR FREE AND
WOULD HAVE HAD JUST AS COMFORTABLE A NIGHT.
HAVING STAYED AT CAMPSITES IN OREGON (STATE
PARKS WITH LESS FUNDING) I WAS LEFT A LITTE

Yosemite National Park

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Public Comment Form TUOLUMNE RIVER PLAN and TUOLUMNE MEADOWS PLAN

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TWSP-368-ELS

SEP 07 2006

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YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

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Name: Meredith Little

Date of Comment: Aug. 18, 2006

Address: [REDACTED] Tucson, AZ 85719

Comments

I	I	C	T	C	V				
RT	#S	LT	DT	UT	IA	IR	OR	TS	

Re: Tuol. Meadows Plan

1. Underlying philosophy: to foster contacts between humans and wilderness (a few humans at a time) and between humans in a wilderness setting
2. Keep TM Lodge where it is; do not expand capacity. ^{human} ^{some} ^{footprint}
3. Build a better bath house at TM Lodge.
4. Expand TM campground, 100-200 more sites.
5. Build a ^{similar to previous lodge} community center near TM campground, where folks can gather & where wilderness education programs can be held, as well as a shelter from storms for tent-camping persons.
6. Restore the old horseshoe grill next to the store,
(over)

(continue comments on back of page)

and discontinue the present take-out system which is anti-human and feels like being in a New York subway.

7. Build 3-5 more cafés & eating spots between the present TM grill ~~we~~ and the service station. These should be outside of the contract presently held by the concessionaire (is it YCS?) to foster variety and give people a ^{better} chance to interact. (These cafés might be used as sleeping places in winter)

8. Do not add facilities for winter visitors except as already existing or as in #7, above.

9. Let employees continue to live near the unit where they work, if they wish, so as to avoid transportation costs and further dependence on commuting and gas-powered engines.

10. Build a bathhouse in the TM Campground (a good example is the one in Lee Vining at the north end of town in the mobilehome park). Charge a reasonable ^{fee}.

11. Strictly inform & enforce with horse people, not to ride outside of existing horse trails. (I noticed this morning two horses had seriously disturbed the pod in the diagonal trail from the Sierra Club bridge over TM river → to the TM store. Signs should be posted as well so they do not ride off the horse trails already available.

12. Allow overnight camping again at Elizabeth Lake; this was an ideal place for families with small children to experience the wilderness, & now the only nearly place seems to be Lower Cathedral Lake, which is farther away; place bear boxes at Eliz. Lake

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YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

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I	I	C	I	CIV				
RT	#S	LT	DT	UT	IA	IR	OR	TS

Name: Ray Ventura

Date of Comment: Aug 24

Address: [REDACTED], Fullerton

Comments

When we came in the East entrance
Mon Aug. 21, 5⁰⁰ PM We asked how to get
to White Wolf Campground

The Ranger gave quick incorrect
directions. Either say you
don't know or give enough time
to give correct directions?

All she said was stay on 120.
she didn't say anything about
turning at Crane Flat?

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Name: David Birch Date of Comment: Sept 6 ? 2006

Address: [REDACTED] Berkeley CA 94708

Comments

After hiking down from White Wolf then up the river to Glen Aulin, the last couple of miles from Glen Aulin to Tuolumne Meadows were ~~terrible~~ a terrible end to an otherwise beautiful trip. It would be wise to have a paralleled hiker's trail to avoid the damage done by the pack animals.

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Name: Laura Phillips Date of Comment: Sept 6, 2006

Address: [REDACTED] San Anselmo, CA 94960

Comments

It would be delightful if you could create a separate path to Glen Ales from Tuolumne meadows for hikers - no horses allowed. We just did a 4 day backpack trip from White Wolf up the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, and found the last stretch from Glen Ales to Tuolumne meadows unfortunately detestable. The sand and murren dampened our otherwise wonderful trip. Thank you for considering my suggestion.

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Name: Alfonso Minor

Date of Comment: Sept 5 / 2006

Address: [REDACTED], Payson, AZ

Comments

I	I	C	I	CIV					
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My wife and I love Yosemite Park & have visited 4 times & hope to come back many more times

Because of ailing knees, I can not do much hiking and prefer biking. It would be just to have Biking trails, to enjoy and possible go from one place to another safely and be able to appreciate nature to its fullest. Also it would prevent accidents of people parking cars at dangerous spots

Thank you
[Signature]

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Name: Janet Westbrook
Comment: _____

Date of 9/4/06

Address: [REDACTED] Ridgecrest, CA 93556-0554

I	I	C	I	CW					
RT	#S	LT	DT	UT	IA	IR	OR	TS	

Comments

- * Parking & restroom at Cathedral Lakes Trail
- * Widen & pave major roads in TM campground - remove trees as necessary - (the ones which have been run into - they're obvious) - DO NOT mess with the campsites! Just fix/widen roads to facilitate large vehicles & 2 way traffic
- * somehow encourage more shuttle use! It's wonderful
- * continue removing small ledgipoles & thin forest on TM side of road - the work done at the west end looks great!
- * thin more ledgipoles in general -!
- * more signs? trail directions, mileages, etc. - will help designate trails

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Name: Charlie Laird

Date of Comment: 9-4-06

Address: [REDACTED], Dunedin, FL 34698

Comments

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RT	#S	LT	DT	UT	IA	IR	OR	TS	

Since attending a meeting on the subject of the Plans on Aug. 28th @ Parsons Lodge, I have given a lot of thought to them and the Tuolumne area.

Basically I believe, still, that as much as possible the area should be preserved for wilderness experiences. However, the Tuolumne Meadows Campground is really not providing "Wilderness activities". Why then not update the facilities, especially the roads + Bathrooms (put in low flow toilets + save water, put in heat + hot water). These things will not ruin the "Campground experience". They will only make it ~~more~~ more enjoyable.

(over)

(continue comments on back of page)

Most likely the Plans will have to consider the Americans With Disabilities Act. With that in mind I think there should be a boardwalk to replace the trail between Tioga road + the wooden bridge leading to Parsons Lodge + Glen Allin + Soda Springs. The trail is terrible now. (I doubt that many people think we need to preserve the old Tioga Road.) Putting in a boardwalk to the wooden bridge would allow disabled people to get into the Meadow + atleast enjoy some of it.

There should be much clearer signs + written notices about pets + wheeled ~~vehicles~~ vehicles in the Tuolumne Meadows area. We need more than International Symbol signs in few to many locations indicating that bicycles strollers + pets (even on leashes) are only allowed in/on paved areas. Every day I see pets + strollers or bicycles somewhere on trails or just wandering the meadows. The owners are always shocked that this is not allowed.

As a hiker, backpacker + sometimes climber I really hate seeing horse + mule droppings all over many trails. John Muir did not arrive here on a horse! I realize that these animals supply high Sierra Camps + otherwise make it possible for some to enjoy backcountry experiences. However at some point we can't do everything. I am 65 yrs old + realize that I won't be able to put 40 pounds on my back + go uphill forever. When that time arrives I will day-hike - I won't let an animal carry my gear. Not everyone can do everything - that's the way life is - Get horses + mules off the trails! They can go to National Forest land. Keep them out of the Tuolumne area - Please!

IT really isn't much of a wilderness experience, you're just carrying your gear and getting you ready for the next day. I was someone more your way.

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Name: DAVE FARLENT Date of Comment: 1 SEP 06

Address: [REDACTED] SAN JOSE CA 95130

Comments

I	I	C	I	U					
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CONCERNING THE CAMPGROUND:

- ① LEAVE IT PRETTY MUCH LIKE IT IS
- ② FILL POT HOLES IN THE ROADS BUT THAT'S ALL
- ③ CUT DOWN STANDING DEAD TREES & MAKE WOOD AVAILABLE FOR INDIVIDUAL CAMPFIRES (IN CAMPGROUND ONLY) ^{THAT'S} ~~THAT'S~~
- ④ CONTINUE "EXCELLENT" DANGER CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS/TALKS
- ⑤ LIMIT "MONSTER" TRAILERS/MOTORHOMES (IS THERE A LENGTH LIMIT NOW?)
- ⑥ ADD MORE RECYCLING STATIONS
- ⑦ ADD MORE NEW ^{SIGNS} STYLE (COLOR NARRATIVE) AT TRAILHEADS AND REPERISH/CHANGE OLD PUNCHED METAL SIGNS AND ADD ELEVATION AS WELL AS MILEAGE ON DESTINATION SIGNS

(continue comments on back of page)

- (8) DO NOT CONSTRUCT ANY MORE TENT CABINS FOR GENERAL PUBLIC RENTAL (TENT CABINS FOR STAFF OK)
- (9) DO NOT CONSTRUCT ANY PERMANENT CABINS FOR ANYBODY
- (10) A SMALL CONVENIENCE STORE, RESTAURANT & GAS STATION COULD BE CONSIDERED NECESSITIES.
- (11) IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE WATER SPIGOTS HAD A LARGER ROCK DRAINAGE AROUND THEM (SOME DON'T HAVE ANY)
- (12) VISITOR CENTER IS EXCELLENT
- (13) THANK YOU FOR GOOD SIZED TABLES & BEAR BOXES
- (14) ONE OF THE THINGS I LIKE ABOUT TM IS IT DOESN'T CHARGE MUCH, YOU CAN COUNT ON IT BEING RUSTIC

CONCERNING THE RIVER:

- (1) KEEP IT FLOWING, CLEAN & CLEAR (NO POLLUTION)
- (2) NO COMMERCIAL RAFTING IN THE PARK!
- (3) KEEP OPEN TO FISHING
- (4) ALLOW SWIMMING/WADEING
- (5) REMOVE SOME OF THE MONSTER LOG-JAMS?
- (6) PROBABLY CAN'T REMOVE HETCH HETCHY DAM BUT DON'T LET THEM RAISE IT OR BUILD OTHER DAMS ON THE RIVER WITHIN THE PARK & WILD RIVER SECTION OUTSIDE THE PARK
- (7) A COMPROMISE TO REMOVING THE DAM WOULD BE TO CHARGE \$F FOR THE USE OF THE WATER & PUT THAT INTO THE PARKS OPERATING FUND
- (8) EXERCISE SOME MINIMAL/UNOBTRUSIVE EROSION CONTROL ON THE RIVER IN THE TM AREA.

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Name: HY FINKELSTEIN
Comment: _____

Date of 9/2/06

Address: [REDACTED] ORANGE CA 92865

Comments

Kind of like it as it is. Would like to see road inside campground re-paved. Would like grill to stay open longer.

I	I	C	I	CW				
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Name: Susan Sargent

Date of Comment: Sept. 1, 2006

Address: [REDACTED]

San Jose CA 95130

Comments

Tuolumne Meadows Plan - My experience is as a
camper, over several seasons, in Tuolumne Meadows
Campground.

I think there needs to be a balance between
preserving the wilderness and allowing recreational
use. On our own trips here, we have enjoyed
hiking, fishing, nature & bird watching, photography,
and Ranger led activities, with our family members
and friends. I would hope that the number
of campsites available for families and ~~groups~~ ^{groups} not
be reduced. I think the campground should
continue to be available for predominately tents,

(continue comments on back of page)

and small rv units (such as tent trailers + campers on pickup trucks). I do not think hookups should be added, or ^{new} accommodations made for large motorhomes or trailers. I believe that facilities such as the visitor center, grill, store, post office and gas station should stay. I think that the High Sierra camps (Indomne Meadows + the others) should continue to operate. I think that back country/backpacking should continue under the permit system. I think that the Tioga road is adequate.

I hope that this special place will be protected for and also used by the next generations.

Indomne River Plan

I think a priority is to keep the river water clean + safe, and to support the wildlife and native plants along the river corridor.

I believe that commercial rafting or boating should not be allowed. I would hope that fishing + recreational use by individuals could continue. Any important cultural sites (eg Native American) should be preserved or protected, if possible.

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Name: B

Comment: _____

Address: _____

Date of

to

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Comments

Site near river way too close to each other.

I never sleep that close to other people,

For 208 a site + 20 to enter way too much.

How can you enjoy nature like that?

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Name: CHRISTINE BALTUTH

Date of Sept 4, 06

Comment: _____

Address: [REDACTED] SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

Comments

no new developments in park - should plan
for no cars in park, shuttle only, for
tuolumne and lower valley - like Zion
Park in Utah - close some components
Back Packer and Bicycle only Campers

I	I	C	I	CW				
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YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to provide written ideas, concerns, or suggestions during the public scoping period, which closes **September 7 2006**. Written comments may be mailed to: **Superintendent, Yosemite National Park, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389 (Attn: Tuolumne Planning)**. Written comments may also be faxed to: **209/379-1294**. Electronic comments may be emailed to: **Yose_Planning@nps.gov** (in the subject line type: **Tuolumne Planning**). Comments can also be submitted online by going to **parkplanning.nps.gov/yose**. Keep track of project status by regularly visiting the park's web site at **www.nps.gov/yose/planning/trp**.

Note: Anonymous comments will not be considered. Generally, The National Park Service will make available to the public for inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses.

Name: ANDREW DERRINGER

Date of 09/05/06

Comment: PACK ANIMAL IMPACT

Address:

[REDACTED], YOSEMITE CA, 95389

Comments

I	I	C	I	C	W				
RT	#S	LT	DT	UT	IA	IR	OR	TS	

Pack Animals Have A HUGE IMPACT ON THE WILDERNESS, most of which is poop! I think it would be a GREAT IDEA TO PUT Bags ON THE HORSES INSIDE THE PARK. The LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES that WE REGULATE PARK VISITORS EXPERIENCE IN THE WILDERNESS should be EXTENDED TO THE ANIMALS that WE USE FOR WORK AND Play INSIDE THE PARK'S BOUNDARIES. NOT ONLY DOES PACK ANIMAL WASTE AFFECT THE WATERSHED, IT ALSO AFFECTS VISITOR EXPERIENCES! People walking around ON TRAILS AND Bike paths etc, should NOT HAVE TO EXPERIENCE WASTE of Any kind.